

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1 1. A plugable call control application program interface, comprising:
2 a base plugable call control application program interface to expose a common set
3 of function calls, properties, and callbacks to be utilized by a plurality of call control
4 protocols; and
5 an extended application program interface to provide at least one of advanced
6 function calls, properties, and callbacks beyond the common set.

1 2. The plugable call control application program interface according to claim 1,
2 further including:
3 a platform isolation layer having a reduced set of basic system functionality to
4 interact with the base plugable call control application program interface and the
5 extended application program interface; and
6 a software application executing on a communications system that accesses the
7 base plugable call control application program interface to initiate a communication
8 utilizing one of the plurality of call control protocols.

1 3. The plugable call control application program interface according to claim 2,
2 wherein the communications system is a computer system.

1 4. The plugable call control application program interface according to claim 2,
2 wherein the communications system is an embedded system.

1 5. The plugable call control application program interface according to claim 1,
2 wherein the plurality of call control protocols include at least one of an International
3 Telecommunication Union (ITU) H.323 protocol, a Session Initiation Protocol (SIP), and a
4 Media Gateway Control Protocol (MGCP).

1 6. The plugable call control application program interface according to claim 1,
2 wherein the call control protocols are Internet Protocol (IP) telephony call control protocols.

1 7. The plugable call control application program interface according to claim 1,
2 wherein the plugable call control application program interface is an American National
3 Standards Institute (ANSI) "C" application program interface.

1 8. The plugable call control application program interface according to claim 1,
2 wherein the at least one of advanced function calls, properties, and callbacks provide additional
3 protocol-specific functionality to at least one of the plurality of call control protocols.

1 9. The plugable call control application program interface according to claim 1,
2 wherein the at least one advanced function calls, properties, and callbacks beyond the common
3 set is accessed using the base plugable call control application program interface.

1 10. The plugable call control application program interface according to claim 1,
2 wherein the extended application program interface provides protocol specific information along
3 with base defined callbacks.

1 11. A method of performing call control on a communications system, the method
2 comprising:
3 providing a common set of function calls, properties, and callbacks to be utilized
4 by a plurality of call control protocols;
5 providing at least one of advanced function calls, properties, and callbacks
6 beyond the common set; and
7 accessing the common set of function calls, properties, and callbacks to initiate a
8 communication utilizing one of the plurality of call control protocols.

1 12. The method according to claim 11, further including:
2 providing a reduced set of basic system functionality to interact with the common
3 set of function calls, properties, and callbacks; and
4 executing a software application on a communications system to access the
5 common set of function calls, properties, and callbacks to initiate the communication
6 utilizing one of the plurality of call control protocols.

1 13. The method according to claim 12, wherein the communications system is a
2 computer system.

1 14. The method according to claim 12, wherein the communications system is an
2 embedded system.

1 15. The method according to claim 11, wherein the plurality of call control protocols
2 include at least one of an International Telecommunication Union (ITU) H.323 protocol, a
3 Session Initiation Protocol (SIP), and a Media Gateway Control Protocol (MGCP).

1 16. The method according to claim 11, wherein the call control protocols are Internet
2 Protocol (IP) telephony call control protocols.

1 17. The method according to claim 11, further including providing with the at least
2 one of advanced function calls, properties, and callbacks additional protocol-specific
3 functionality to at least one of the plurality of call control protocol.

1 18. The method according to claim 11, wherein the at least one advanced function
2 calls, properties, and callbacks beyond the common set is accessed using the base pluggable call
3 control application program interface.

1 19. The method according to claim 11, wherein the extended application program
2 interface provides protocol specific information along with base defined callbacks.

1 20. A communications system, comprising:
2 a computer-readable medium; and
3 computer-readable program code, stored on the computer-readable medium,
4 adapted to be loaded and executed on an operating system of the communications system,
5 the computer-readable program code performing,

6 providing a common set of function calls, properties, and callbacks to be
7 utilized by a plurality of call control protocols,
8 providing at least one of advanced function calls, properties, and callbacks
9 beyond the common set, and
10 accessing the common set of function calls, properties, and callbacks to
11 initiate a communication utilizing one of the plurality of call control protocols.

1 21. The communications system according to claim 20, wherein the computer-
2 readable program code further performs:

3 providing a reduced set of basic system functionality to interact with the common
4 set of function calls, properties, and callbacks; and
5 executing a software application on the communications system to access the
6 common set of function calls, properties, and callbacks to initiate the communication
7 utilizing one of the plurality of call control protocols.

1 22. The communications system according to claim 20, wherein the plurality of call
2 control protocols include at least one of an International Telecommunication Union (ITU) H.323
3 protocol, a Session Initiation Protocol (SIP), and a Media Gateway Control Protocol (MGCP).

1 23. The communications system according to claim 20, wherein the call control
2 protocols are Internet Protocol (IP) telephony call control protocols.

1 24. The communications system according to claim 20, wherein the computer-
2 readable program code further performs providing with the at least one of advanced function
3 calls, properties, and callbacks additional protocol-specific functionality to at least one of the
4 plurality of call control protocols.

1 25. The communications system according to claim 20, wherein the communications
2 system is a computer system.

1 26. The communications system according to claim 20, wherein the communications
2 system is an embedded system.

1 27. The communications system according to claim 20, wherein the at least one
2 advanced function calls, properties, and callbacks beyond the common set is accessed using the
3 base pluggable call control application program interface.

1 28. The communications system according to claim 20, wherein the extended
2 application program interface provides protocol specific information along with base defined
3 callbacks.